

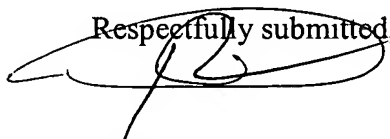
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 9, 10, 12, are amended, claims 3, 8, 19, 21, 23, and 24 are canceled, so that claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-18, 20, and 22 are pending and subject to examination.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick R. Jewik', is written over the words 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Patrick R. Jewik
Reg. No. 40,456

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
PRJ
60066569 v1